

Summary

NPLCC Steering Committee Meeting held December 14-15, 2011

The NPLCC Charter Steering Committee held a two day meeting in mid-December 2011. The main goals of the meeting were accomplished:

- Approved the NPLCC Charter,
- Established Steering Committee membership and successfully transitioned from a “Charter” Steering Committee to the NPLCC Steering Committee (SC),
- Reviewed a proposed work plan for NPLCC activities for calendar 2012, and
- Established the Science and Traditional Ecologic Knowledge subcommittee, including appointment of Frank Shipley (USGS) as the subcommittee chair.

In addition, the SC heard presentations on the following two projects: 1) Patricia Tillman, National Wildlife Federation – Phase I and II, Marine/Coastal and Freshwater Ecosystems and 2) Crystal Raymond U.S. Forest Service – North Cascadia Adaptation Partnership.

Attachment A lists the meeting **attendees**.

Attachment B provides the **agenda** for the meeting. Key items of discussion are summarized by agenda item in the notes below. Conclusions or decisions reached by the SC are highlighted; questions or action items for SC members are also highlighted.

Introductory comments and discussion

Participants briefly discussed and summarized the results of the previous SC meeting and described some of their personal objectives for the NPLCC and what they hoped to achieve during this meeting.

Review of Draft Charter

The Draft NPLCC Charter was discussed in detail, and modified and approved by consensus. Participants also agreed upon a process by which the Charter could be modified.

Significant attention was devoted to the organizational structure, and it was recognized that additional work needs to be done to successfully constitute the Tribal and First Nations Committee. NPLCC staff were charged with working with select SC members to assist in the process of forming this Committee.

The NPLCC Charter was approved.

Specific modifications to the Charter can be proposed by any SC member at any time; such modifications will be discussed with the NPLCC staff, who will ensure that the suggested revision is distributed to all SC members prior to the next scheduled SC meeting and will be on the agenda agenda topic for the next scheduled meeting.

The approved NPLCC Charter will be distributed with these notes and will be posted on the NPLCC website.

Attachment C lists the entities participating as NPLCC SC members from the approved Charter, along with the individuals who have been participating from each of those entities as Charter SC members. NPLCC staff will be contacting each of the SC member organizations and asking them to confirm their representatives (and alternates).

Discussion of NPLCC Boundaries

Alaska State's representative to the NPLCC (Doug Vincent-Lang) had requested clarity about how the LCC network boundaries were drawn in Alaska, and a discussion about whether or not there are better options for those boundaries. As preface to this discussion, Frank Shipley (USGS and NPLCC SC member) gave a brief presentation on the origin of the LCC boundaries; Andrea Woodward (USGS) recapped part of her presentation from the October 2011 workshop on the ecoregion definitions and boundaries *within* the NPLCC, and John Mankowski (NPLCC Coordinator) provided an overview of the LCC-wide process for boundary changes. Each of these presentations is available separately – see references in Attachment D.

Doug Vincent-Lang described to the rest of the participants why he felt it would be useful to revisit the boundaries of the NPLCC with the two adjacent LCCs in Alaska (the Western Alaska LCC and the Northwestern Interior Forest LCC). After discussion, the group agreed to form a small team to develop a strategy for addressing the boundary issue.

An ad-hoc team consisting of Steve Klosiewski, John Mankowski, Doug Vincent-Lang, and Terry Williams was formed and asked to develop a strategy to be considered by the NPLCC SC in February that answers the question: “Are there better ways to draw the boundaries between the NPLCC and two other LCC’s in Alaska that will achieve the purposes of the LCC Network.

It is anticipated that this strategy should:

- Include representatives from the Western AK and Northwestern Interior Forest LCCs,

- Anticipate a 1-day workshop/web cast involving the “right” scientists (federal, state, tribal, etc.),
- Be guided by the two guidance documents on LCC boundaries (referenced above), and
- Reach a conclusion within three months and the results are reported back to the NPLCC Steering Committee.

The SC will be asked at their March 2012 meeting to approve the strategy developed by this ad-hoc team. Any decision to formally initiate a boundary change process will need to be come from the NPLCC SC after review of the results of the process to be initiated after the February meeting.

While this process goes forward, Alaska has supported the NPLCC Charter, and is participating in its implementation.

National Wildlife Federation presentation

Patricia Tillman and Dan Siemann with the National Wildlife Federation presented the results of Phase 1 of their work to synthesizing climate-related science across the NPLCC for marine/coastal and freshwater ecosystems, and described their plans to conduct structured interviews with NPLCC partners during Phase 2.

The presentation is included as a separate document (NWF CC in the NPLCC Dec14.pdf), and the full reports are available online under the “Adaptation Reports” section at www.nwf.org/climate-smart.

Meeting participants were encouraged to review the list of people invited to participate in the workshops being schedule by the NWF, and to provide additional names of people they feel would be helpful to the discussions.

North Cascadia Adaptation Partnership (NCAP) presentation

Crystal Raymond of the US Forest Service, PNW Research Station presented an overview of the North Cascadia Adaptation Partnership (NCAP), a collaboration led by the USFS and the NPS aiming to (1) increase climate change awareness among national park and forest staff, (2) assess the vulnerability of natural and cultural resources to climate change, (3) plan for climate change adaptation, and (4) coordinate adaptation planning with other resource management agencies and stakeholders.”

The presentation is included as a separate document (NCAP Overview for NPLCC.pdf), and additional information is available at the NCAP website at www.northcascadia.org.

Meeting participants discussed the similarities between the NCAP goals and the NPLCC goals, and the potential for implementing a similar approach, or supporting an expansion of the NCAP

process, to a larger geography within the NPLCC, partly as a means for identifying areas where the NPLCC can or should focus future efforts.

Science and TEK subcommittee

Participants discussed the formation, leadership, role, and near- and long-term goals of the Science and TEK subcommittee. The responsibilities of this committee are described in the Charter.

Tribal participants on the committee raised several issues related to the timing of inclusion and use of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). They emphasized that while there may be TEK relevant to the resource management decisions of NPLCC partners, any decisions about sharing TEK are Tribal decisions. The Science and TEK subcommittee is interested in including consideration of TEK where possible and appropriate, and will work with the Tribal Committee to identify opportunities to do so.

Frank Shipley (USGS) was appointed Chair of the Science and TEK subcommittee. Main tasks for Science and TEK subcommittee were agreed to be (1) Develop a near-term science/planning strategy for FY12 resources (2) Develop a 5-year Science Strategy.

The Chair will work closely with Mary Mahaffy (NPLCC Science Coordinator) in developing these products and implementing other Science and TEK subcommittee tasks. The first meeting of this subcommittee will be a conference call/webinar the beginning of February and an in-person meeting the end of February. The Chair will provide a brief update to the SC during their March meeting.

The meeting participants also discussed the current state of science information (building from discussions surrounding the earlier presentations), reviewed a short presentation from Karen Jenni (the facilitator) on methods for prioritizing information needs, and developed some suggestions for areas of near-term focus for the Science and TEK subcommittee. These ideas included:

- Inventory existing climate coordination efforts (past and future) ongoing in the NPLCC region, and look for opportunities to connect and build from those efforts
- Development of a robust list of potential information needs that the NPLCC might address, and an approach for prioritizing those needs,
- Continue to survey the current state-of-the-science on climate change and climate change impacts in the region; participate in planned and ongoing related workshops in the North Pacific; identify and coordinate with other efforts surveying existing research and tool development.
- Expand existing efforts, such as NCAP, so they are transboundary.

NPLCC 2012 Draft Workplan

NPLCC Staff presented a draft 2012 work plan for discussion. The key elements discussed were the list of major tasks for the Steering Committee, the Tribal and First Nations Committee, and the three standing subcommittees. The work plan includes a proposed schedule of activities and major milestones. It is provided as separate document (NPLCC Work Plan).).

Upcoming Meetings of Interest

Steering Committee meetings were scheduled as follows:

Date	Format	Major topics
Early March	Web / phone	Agree on Chair(s) for the Steering Committee; Appoint Chairs for the Communications subcommittee and the Partnership Liaison Committee; Review proposal from ad hoc subcommittee on NPLCC boundaries; Approve task list for the 2012 work plan; Receive progress report from S/TEK Subcommittee; Discuss ongoing/upcoming national/regional LCC activities.
Week of 4/30	Web / phone	Review and approach FY12 projects, based on recommendations from the Science and TEK subcommittee
Week of 6/11	In person	
Week of 8/6	Web / phone	Review draft Science Plan
Week of 10/1	Web / phone	
Week of 12/3	In person	

(Doodle poll will be conducted to set exact date/time of each meeting)

National LCC Meeting: March 27-28 in Denver, CO.

Temperate Rainforest Symposium, April 17-19 in Juneau, AK

Attachment A

Meeting attendees

Person	Organization
Charter Steering Committee Members	
David Redhorse	Bureau of Indian Affairs
Deb Carter	National Park Service (Alaska)
Peter Dederich	National Park Service (Seattle)
Barry Thom	NOAA Fisheries
Nancy Mumm	NOAA Fisheries
Terry Rabot	US Fish and Wildlife Service (Region 1)
Steve Klosiewski	US Fish and Wildlife Service (Region 7)
Rick Kearney	US Fish and Wildlife Service (Region 8)
John Laurence (by phone)	US Forest Service (PNW Research Station)
Paul Brewster	US Forest Service
Lyman Thorsteinson	US Geological Survey (Alaska)
Frank Shipley	US Geological Survey (Northwest)
Bruce Newton	USDA – NRCS
Joyce Kelly	Environmental Protection Agency (Region 10)
Tasha Sargent	Canadian Wildlife Service (Pacific/Yukon region)
Madeline Maley	Province of British Columbia
Rory Annett	Province of British Columbia
Terry Williams	Tulalip Tribe
Joe Hostler	Yurok Tribe
Doug Vincent-Lang	State of Alaska (ADF&G)
Dave Brittell	State of Washington (Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife)
Brett Brownscombe (by phone)	State of Oregon
Whitney Albright (by phone)	State of California
NPLCC Staff	
Mary Mahaffy	North Pacific LCC
John Mankowski	North Pacific LCC
Additional participants, not on Steering Committee	
Josh Foster	NOAA RISA (Climate Impacts Research Center)
Andrea Woodward	US Geological Survey
Preston Hardiston	Tulalip Tribe
Son Hashisaki	Tulalip Tribe
Patricia Tillman	National Wildlife Federation
Dan Siemann	National Wildlife Federation
Crystal Raymond	US Forest Service, PNW Research Station
Karen Jenni (facilitator)	Insight Decisions LLC

ATTACHMENT B
FINAL DRAFT AGENDA
NPLCC Charter Steering Committee Meeting
Dec. 14-15th
Alderbrook Inn, Union, WA

Desired outcomes

- Approve NPLCC Charter
 - Including organizational structure
- Establish Steering Committee Membership for upcoming year
- Agree on a proposed work plan for NPLCC activities for the upcoming year
- Establish the Science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge subcommittee
 - Charge and near-term tasks
 - Membership
 - Provide guidance on process for prioritizing science and information needs, but in the near-term (for FY12 funding) and longer-term

Wednesday, Dec. 14th

8:00 – 8:45 Welcome, Introductions, Review of Goals and Agenda.

8:45 – 9:30 Overview of progress made at Framing Workshop

- Decisions and outcomes of interest for NPLCC partners
- Decisions and outcomes of interest to the NPLCC itself
- Discussion and clarifications.

9:30 – 10:00 BREAK

10:00 – 12:00 Discussion and decisions on NPLCC Business and Operations

- Review Draft Charter:
 - Review and approve mission, goals, guiding principles, background (see comments received on initial version)
- Discuss and review the proposed NPLCC's Steering Committee and subcommittee structure (discuss staff proposal in the draft Charter)
- Discuss SC membership & operating guidelines

12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH

1:00 – 1:45 Continued discussion of NPLCC Committee / Subcommittee structure & membership

- 1:45 – 3:00 Discussion of NPLCC boundaries
- Discussion of how boundaries were developed, review of ecological models
 - Clarify process for making boundary adjustments, based on guidance from Doug Austin, National LCC coordinator
 - Hear proposals and rationale regarding any proposed boundary changes
 - SC decision on whether to initiate a boundary change process
- 3:00 – 3:15 BREAK
- 3:15 – 3:30 Discuss Work Plan and NPLCC tasks for upcoming year.
- Review staff proposal (will be distributed at meeting), hear general comments and brief discussion. Will be revisited in more depth at the end of the day Thursday.
- 3:30 – 5:00 National Wildlife Federation presentation on Phase I and II of their work to synthesize climate-related science across the LCC, and their plans to conduct structured interviews with LCC partners on their specific science needs. Goal is to lay some groundwork for discussion on Day 2 about identifying and prioritizing science and information needs.

Thursday, Dec. 15th

- 8:00 – 8:45 Discussion: Reactions/feedback from Day 1
- 8:45 – 9:30 USFS presentation on the North Cascadia Adaptation Partnership (NCAP: <http://northcascadia.org/>)
- Hear about past and ongoing activities and the resulting identification of information needs
- 9:30 – 10:00 Presentation and discussion of approaches for science needs identification and prioritization.
- 10:00 – 10:15 BREAK
- 10:15 – 12:00 Discussion:
- Discuss / recommend approach for science needs prioritization
 - Additional ideas for identifying potential information needs (other ongoing efforts)
 - Develop guidance for Science/TEK subcommittee
 - Preliminary criteria for prioritizing information needs
 - Preliminary criteria for a the science plan portfolio
- 12:00 – 1:15 WORKING LUNCH, if necessary – Continue discussion during and after lunch.

- 1:15 – 1:45 Science and TEK Subcommittee planning
- What are the immediate tasks and expectations for this subcommittee?
 - Review proposed membership list from staff
- 1:45 – 2:45 Discuss, review, and modify (as necessary) the Draft 2012 Work Plan.
- 2:45 – 3:00 Final comments
- 3:00 ADJORN

ATTACHMENT C

Steering Committee Member Organizations and Representatives (as of 12/15/2011)

North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative Steering Committee			
Organization	Primary Contact Name	Title	Alternate
British Columbia	Madeline Maley	Executive Director, Ministry Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations	
British Columbia	Rory Annett	Executive Director, Coastal Projects	
Bureau of Indian Affairs	David Redhorse	Division Chief, Division of Natural Resources	Keith Hatch
Bureau of Land Management (Anchorage)	Jim Fincher	Manager, Anchorage Field Office	
Bureau of Land Management (Portland)	Mike Haske	Deputy State Director	Brendan Cain
Canadian Wildlife Service (Pacific/Yukon Region)	Barry Smith	Regional Director	Tasha Sargent
Environmental Protection Agency (Pacific Northwest Region)	Joyce Kelly	Director, Office of Env. Assessment	Bruce Duncan
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Fisheries)	Barry Thom	Dep. Regional Administrator, Fisheries	
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Regional Climate)	James Partain	Director, Regional Climate Services	
National Park Service (Seattle)	Rory Westberg	Deputy Regional Director	Peter Dederich
National Park Service (Alaska)	Mike Tranel	Superintendent, Klondike Gold Rush NHP	Debora Cooper
Pacific Coast Joint	Tasha Sargent	Coordinator, PCJV	

Venture (Canada)			
Pacific Coast Joint Venture (US)	Tom Dwyer	US Co-chair, PCJV Management Board	
State of Alaska	Doug Vincent-Lang	Special Assistant, ADF&G	
State of California	Armand Gonzales	Special Advisor, Climate Science & Renewable Energy, CA Fish & Game	Whitney Albright
State of Oregon	Brett Brownscombe	Nat. Res. Policy Advisor, Governor's Office	
State of Washington	Dave Brittell	Special Assistant, WDFW	Lynn Helbrecht
Tribes/First Nations (Alaska)			
Tribes/First Nations (British Columbia)			
Tribes/First Nations (California)	Kathleen Sloan	Director, Environmental Program, Yurok Tribe	Joe Hostler
Tribes/First Nations (Oregon)			
Tribes/First Nations (Washington)	Terry Williams	Director, Treaty Rights Office, Tulalip Tribes	
US Fish and Wildlife Service (Alaska Region)	Steve Klosiewski	Dep. Asst. Reg. Dir., Fisheries Program	Bill Hanson
US Fish and Wildlife Service (Pacific Region)	Terry Rabot	Asst. Regional Dir., Ecological Services	Mike Roy
US Fish and Wildlife Service (Pacific Southwest Region)	Richard Kearney	Asst. Regional Dir., Science Applications	
US Forest Service (Pacific Northwest Region)	Jeff Walter	Nat. Res. Director	Marc Kramer
US Forest Service (PNW Research Station - Alaska)	Paul Brewster	Assistant Director	Wayne Owen
US Forest Service (PNW Research Station - NW)	John Laurence	Program Manager	
US Geological Survey (Alaska)	Lyman Thorsteinson	Senior Scientist	
US Geological Survey (Pacific Northwest)	Frank Shipley	Senior Scientist	

USDA Natural Resources Cons. Ser. (National Water/Climate Center)	Mike Strobel	Director	
USDA Natural Resources Cons. Ser. (West region NTSC)	Bruce Newton	Director	
<i>Non-decisional participants</i>			
Climate Science Center (Alaska)	Stephen Gray	Director	
Climate Science Center (Northwest)	Gustavo Bisbal	Director	
Climate Science Center (Southwest)			
NOAA RISA (Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy)			
NOAA RISA (Climate Impacts Research Center)	Josh Foster	Program Manager, OR Climate Change Research Institute	
NOAA RISA (California- Nevada Applications Program)			
Pacific Institute Climate Change (British Columbia)			
Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (British Columbia)			
NPLCC Staff			
US Fish and Wildlife Service	John Mankowski	NPLCC Coordinator	
US Fish and Wildlife Service	Mary Mahaffy	NPLCC Science Coordinator	

ATTACHMENT D

Documents and presentations supporting the discussion of NPLCC boundaries

Document	Description
LCC Boundary Establishment Summary.pdf	Presentation describing how the boundaries of the LCCs were originally established
Ecological Context.pdf	Presentation summarizing the ecological context for the NPLCC
LCC Boundary Change Process.pdf	Presentation summarizing the boundary change process
LCC boundary change guidance (Final).pdf	LCC working operational guidance document on addressing boundary change requests (12/6/2011)
LCC-Boundary Changes 6-25-10.pdf	Criteria for Modifying the National Geographic Framework (4/19/2010)